(b) what are the Rehabilitation Schemes that have been introduced by Government for mentally ill in past five years and what are the scheme which are being planned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Eleven Half-way Homes for psycho-social rehabilitation of treated and controlled mentally ill persons are being funded by this Ministry. The beneficiaries in four of these homes are only women.

(b) The Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme of this Ministry has been catering to the rehabilitation needs of the mentally ill.

Problem of begging

3466. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether begging and giving alms are offences in the capital city;

(b) if so, whether there are agencies to check these beggars who are causing nuisance at traffic signals; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Begging is an offence in the Capital city under the Bombay prevention of Begging Act, 1959 as extended to Delhi. Under this Act, giving alms is not an offence.

(b) Delhi Police is the agency to check the begging menace at traffic signals.

(c) Does not arise.

Ratification of international Convention of Rights of persons with Disabilities

3467. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to ratify the International convention on the protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) Government of India has signed the International Convention on the rights for Persons with disabilities on the 30th March, 2007. Provisions of the convention are implemented by the Central Government Ministries, State Governments/UT Administration and monitored through Central Coordination Committee and Central Executive Committee set up under the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995.

Attempts to limit reservations

3468. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any attempt to limit the social reservations granted to various sections of the society;

(b) if so, whether steps will be taken to protect the reservation granted to scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes as on date;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Implementation of Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship scheme

3469. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: